**Manufacture of Typewriters in Devnagari Script**

t2487. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI; Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language to the effect that anangements should be made to manu&cture only such typewriters which could be used only in Devnagari Script so that the requirement of bilingual typewriters could be done away with;

(b) the action taken, so far, to implement the said recommendation; and

(c) whether any special relaxation with regard to excise duty on the said typewriters has been considered.

THE MINISTER OF STATE! IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Parliamentary Committee on Official language have made following recommendations which have been accepted ;

(i) Production and use orelectronic, typewriters should be encouraged by the Government so that solely Devnagari typewriters can also be manufactured quickly in the country.

(ii) Till such time that electronic typewriters which use only Devnagari script become available, all Government Offices/Departments shall buy only those typewriters which are bilingual i.e. which use Roman as well as Devnagari script.

(b) Governmenthaveissuedorderson 15th June 1987, directing that all Offices/Departments of Central Government should use only bilingual typewriters till such time that manufacture of Devnagari typewriters begins.

(c) Typewriters other than Braille Typewriters, attract Excise Duty at the rate of 16% ad valorem. No special relaxation in respect of excise duty has been given to typewriters using Devnagari Script.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.